

Amendments to the Drawings

None

Remarks/Arguments

In this Response to the Office Action, Claims 1, 14 and 16 have been amended, Claim 23 has been added, and Claim 13 has been canceled. More particularly, Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of original Claim 13, which was therefore canceled. Claim 14 has been amended to depend from Claim 1 and not the now-canceled Claim 13. Claim 16 has been amended to more particularly define the apparatus being claimed. Claim 23 is new and includes the exact language of original Claim 1 as well as language originally presented in Claim 14 with selected language from originally presented Claim 13 for antecedent basis. Applicants believe no new matter has been presented as these amendments are supported by the application text and drawings.

Thus, Claims 1-12 and 14-23 are pending in this application. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 1-9, 12 and 15-21 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,279,585 to Balkwill. Claims 10, 11, 13 (according to the Office Action Summary and in view of a believed misprint on page 2 of the Office Action), 14 and 22 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were stated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response to the Office Action, and also in view of the Written Opinion from the priority PCT application, which Written Opinion the Examiner will recognize is part of the instant application's file history as such was provided during entry of the US phase, the Applicants have chosen to advance independent claims related, as described above, to the subject matter of original Claims 13 and 14. Although Claim 23 does not exactly track the objected to original Claim 14 as it does not recite all of the limitations of intervening Claim

13, namely the limitations reciting “and said first lead, said second lead and said third lead are each a different value” are omitted, Applicants submit that such Claim 23 does recite patentable subject matter.

Applicants believe the now pending Claims are patentable over the Examiner cited art, as well as the materials identified in the Information Disclosure Statement being submitted electronically concurrently with the submission of this Response.

Moreover, Applicants note for the Examiner’s information that the US2006/0258988 reference, and its related EP1610848B1 reference, identified in the concurrent IDS each have a priority date after the filing of the US Provisional Patent Application upon which the instant application claims priority. However, such priority date of these references is prior to the filing date of the priority PCT application for the instant application. For the information of the Examiner, the claims numbered 11 and 16 of the instant application were introduced at the time of the PCT filing. The other claims of the instant application are believed to include elements identified in the claims of the priority provisional application. Nevertheless, Applicants submit that the teachings of these references do not prevent patentability of Claims 11 and 16 of the instant application, especially in view of the amendments to Claim 16 above, as well as the disclosure related to the references’ teachings at page 17, lines 19-22 of the priority provisional application, and the disclosure at page 27, line 19 – page 28, line 7 of the priority provisional application.

Thus, Applicants submit that all of Claims 1-12 and 14-23 are in condition for allowance, and requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is also believed a three months extension of time is required for this paper, and such extension is being requested electronically concurrently with the submission of this Response.

If such request is not received or any additional extension of time or fees are required with this paper, such are hereby petitioned therefor and the Commissioner is hereby

authorized to charge any such fees to Deposit Account No. 05-0840.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions if such would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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